

### **\$3-MILLION SOUGHT FOR ASIA PROGRAM**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26 (UPI)—The State Department announced Monday it would ask Congress for more than \$3-million to support the Asia Foundation, which was involved in a controversy last year that it was financed by the Central Intelligence Agency.

The foundation, founded in 1954, is a philanthropic organization based in San Francisco and operates offices in 17 Asian countries. It describes itself as a nonprofit group dedicated to the educational, social and cultural development of Asian societies and the furthering of cooperation and understanding between peoples of Asia and the United States.

In 1966, the foundation distributed 1,600 grants totaling \$8.5-million for educational research, institutional studies and various governmental programs in Asia.

A Department spokesman, Robert J. McCloskey, said the Agency for International Development would request \$2.5-million to support Asia foundation programs and \$600,000 more would be sought for the foundation by the Bureau of Cultural Affairs.